

In the Specification:

On page 1, replace the paragraph on lines 8-20 with the following paragraph:

--Cross-reference is made to U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos., which are all hereby incorporated herein by reference: 09/737,552, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Factoring Ambiguous Finite State Transducers"; 09/737,940, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Factoring Unambiguous Finite State Transducers"; 09/737,939, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Aligning Ambiguity In Finite State Transducers"; 09/737,758, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Factoring Finite State Transducers With Unknown Symbols"; 09/737,553, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Extracting Infinite Ambiguity When Factoring Finite State Transducers"; 09/737,857, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Reducing The Intermediate Alphabet Occurring Between Cascaded Finite State Transducers"; 09/737,757, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Extracting Short Runs Of Ambiguity From Finite State Transducers".--

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted prior to examination for the purposes of adding serial numbers to the specification that were not available at the time of filing.

In the event the Examiner considers a personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is hereby requested to call Attorney for Applicant(s), Thomas Zell.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard B. Domingo for Thomas Zell
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 36,784
Telephone: 650-812-4282

Palo Alto, California
Date: 2/26/01